XVII. *Description of a new Coleopterous Insect of the family Paussidæ.* By Charles O. Waterhouse, F.E.S.

[Read Oct. 6th, 1897.]

In 1892, Dr. Gestro described in the "Annali del Museo Civico di Genova" (ser. 2, xii, p. 706) a new genus of Paussidæ which he named *Protopaussus*. It was the first member of this family with eleven joints to the antennæ. The discovery of a second species of this genus by Mr. J. J. Walker, in China, during the voyage of H.M.S. "Penguin," is therefore of great interest. The affinity of the Paussidæ with the Carabidæ was, I believe, first suggested by Burmeister (Mag. de Zool., 1841, pl. 76, pp. 1–14). M. Raffray (Nouv. Arch. Mus., 1885, xviii, p. 354), while admitting a relationship with the Carabidæ, thinks that it is more remote than Burmeister supposed.

The discovery of a Paussid with eleven joints to the antennæ, makes the relationship with the Carabidæ still more apparent. The species which I here describe goes a step further, for it has an emargination on the inner side of the anterior tibiæ, a marked character of the Carabidæ.

M. Raffray, who has gone very fully into the matter, does not mention the singular similarity in the neuration of the wings. One peculiarity in the wings of Carabidæ and Hydradephaga is the presence of a small, upright, closed cell on the disk. This cell is present in the Paussidæ, and so far as I know occurs nowhere else among Coleoptera.

Protopaussus Walkeri, sp. n.

Elongatus, sat nitidus, rufo-piceus. Elytris nigris, basi apiceque rufo-piceis, crebre fortiter punctatis, apice ipso declivi, nitido, lævi, singulo ad basin dente acuto instructo. Long., 6 mill.

Hab. China (J. J. Walker, in Mus. Brit.).

Judging from the figure and description of *P. Feæ*, Gestro, from Burmah, this species differs in being of a darker colour. The antennæ are longer, the three terminal joints being longer than broad. The head

appears to be similar, closely punctured in front, impressed and much less rugosely punctured behind. The thorax in front is a little narrower than the head across the eyes, obliquely narrowed for a short distance, and then considerably dilated, the dilated part terminating posteriorly in a very acute point, which is slightly turned outwards. There is a deep fovea occupying the area of the anterior angle, and two deep impressions on the disk,

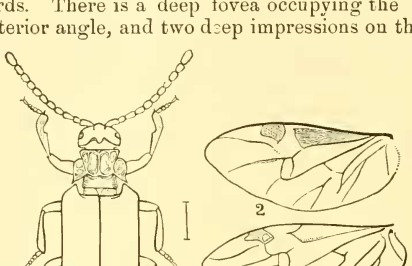

Fig. 1. *Protopaussus Walkeri*. Fig. 2. Wing of *Protopaussus*. Fig. 3. Wing of *Ozæna* (Carabidæ).

only divided by a slight ridge. There are two small impressions on the margin of the dilated part. The elytra are strongly and closely punctured, except at the extreme apex. The humeral part of the elytron is produced into a conical tooth, which projects somewhat over the base of the thorax, fitting into the space between the dilatation of the sides and the base of the thorax. The tibiæ are only slightly widened towards the apex; the anterior pair are slightly bent inwards at the apex, with a distinct pubescent emargination on the inner side, occupying about half the length of the tibia.

The structure of the antennæ and the emargination of the anterior tibiæ are very like what is seen in a Central-American Carabid, which is, I believe, *Ozæna brevicornis*, Bates.

Mr. Walker informs me that he found two specimens on "Mount Combe," thirty miles S.E. of Ning-po, China, by sweeping long grass at an elevation of 1600 feet, June 2nd, 1892.